

Yambaru National Park

Park Plan (Excerpt)

September 15, 2016

Ministry of the Environment

1. Basic Policy

The landscape of Yambaru National Park features a range of diverse and complex ecosystems in Japan's largest subtropical laurel forest. Reflecting the geological development process of the Ryukyu Chain, this forest is home to concentrations of many endemic species unique to this area. It features the presence of cloud forests that develop in humid highlands, river ecosystems that host rheophyte plant communities, plants specific to limestone regions, and mangrove ecosystems.

The Park Plan seeks to promote the protection and use of Yambaru National Park through protecting ecosystems that offer habitat for a wide range of rare and endemic species, contributing to the conservation of local life and cultures that have lived in harmony with and benefited from the richness of these natural environments, thereby serving as a national park to experience the rich biodiversity and endemic subtropical forest ecosystems found here.

(1) Basic policy on protection

The subtropical laurel forest is home to many rare and endemic species, including the Okinawa spiny rat (*Tokudaia muenninki*), Okinawa rail (*Gallirallus okinawae*), Okinawa woodpecker (*Sapheopipo noguchii*), Yanbaru long-armed scarab beetle (*Cheirotonus jambar*), and an orchid species *Dendrobium okinawense*. Despite the importance of protecting the ecosystems created by such flora and fauna, the forests in this region have been the site of various industrial activities over the years. For example, they have been managed as forestry resources for Okinawa from the days of the Ryukyu Kingdom. Dams have been built to provide water resources for the life and industry in Okinawa Island. The forests are also vulnerable to the consequences of alien species like the mongoose and feral cats, as well as roadkill, capturing and collection of flora and fauna, and other human activity. In addition, the Okinawa woodpecker damages crops. Within the National Park, protection and management will be crucial for maintaining the value of these ecosystems handed down to the present day, all the while carrying out adjustments and coordinated efforts with local industry.

The basic policy with regard to protection will be to ensure that important resource of wild flora and fauna continue to flourish and that no species is lost to extinction while working to coordinate forestry operations within the regenerative capacity of the forest. More specifically, the policy will be to protect old-growth

forests and forests that include stands of old-growth trees through strict protection measures; to protect the mountainous backbone in continuity as important habitats for rare and endemic species; to protect the mountain stream environments that nurture rheophyte plants, amphibians, and other wildlife species; and to ensure forestry operations mindful of these ecosystems. Additionally, efforts will seek to ensure the natural restoration and rehabilitation of laurel forests and river ecosystems wherever they are impaired by human activity, including industry and development.

Efforts will seek to control alien species that threaten the ecosystem and to minimize the adverse effects of human consequences like capture and collection as well as roadkill.

i. Regulation plan

(i) Special Zones

a. Special Protection Zones

The area comprising the environs of Mt. Ibudake and Mt. Nishimedake is home to an old growth forest composed of many large trees, an important habitat for rare and endemic species. Not just an important habitat for wildlife, Mt. Yonahadake is a region where cloud forests containing numerous species of epiphytic ferns and orchidaceous plants are found. Mt. Hedodake features a unique landscape formed by karst topography. These zones will be designated Special Protection Zones to protect their biodiversity and remarkable landscapes.

b. Class I Special Zones

Mountainous backbone provides key habitats for rare and endemic species. Mountain streams within these forests are home to rheophyte plants characteristic of tropical and subtropical areas. The zones are also egg-laying areas and habitats for endemic amphibian species. Mt. Nekumachijidake is situated in a Paleozoic limestone region featuring karst topography—home to unique plant species—while Cape Hedo features spectacular sea-cliff landscape. These zones will be designated Class I Special Zones to maintain their biodiversity and remarkable scenic beauty.

c. Class II Special Zones

These subtropical laurel forests are extensions of Special Protection Zones or Class I Special Zones and provide habitat for rare and endemic species. These zones will involve a coordination of ecosystem protective measures and forestry operations. The natural coastline in this zone is home to coastal vegetation, while the beaches provide nesting grounds for sea turtles. These zones will be designated Class II Special Zones to protect their fine scenic beauty.

d. Class III Special Zones

Lying adjacent to Class I or Class II Special Zones, these zones feature expanding forest of planted Ryukyu pine (*Pinus luchuensis*). In addition, the natural environment and mountain ranges in these zones are used for agriculture. These zones will be designated Class III Special Zones to maintain their local scenic

beauty.

(ii) Ordinary Zones

To maintain the mountain and seascapes in these zones with which the lives of local residents are intertwined and to conserve the scenery surrounding the Special Zones, these zones will be designated Ordinary Zones.

(2) Basic policy on use

Yambaru National Park features subtropical laurel forests and mountain stream landscapes, numerous rare and endemic species that inhabit these biomes, sea-cliff coastlines and beaches that provide nesting grounds for sea turtles, and karst topography. The Park also involves the lives and culture of the people in this region who have inherited these natural treasures. These resources will be managed so that, in addition to creating a National Park where many kinds of wildlife characteristic of the region can live and flourish, we can ensure wildlife diversity, rich subtropical laurel forest, and a high quality natural experience, together offering more than just nature sightseeing for ordinary visitors, all the while taking into account the potential for deterioration and damage to the natural environment and atmosphere that may result from concentration of users.

With regard to use, the national park is inhabited by many insects, amphibians, reptiles, and plants that may be adversely affected by capture and collection. To prevent the kind of damage to the natural environment that may result from unregulated use of the forest and concentration of users, rules of use, including the implementation of restricted visitor numbers and escorts of guides, will be studied based on the condition of the natural environment. Efforts will be made to promulgate thorough knowledge of forest etiquette, thereby allowing sustainable use of the forest while conserving its natural resources. Wildlife observation is one form of national park use. Consideration will be given to the potential impact of observations on wildlife and appropriate rules of use.

To protect the living and cultural resources of the region, visitors will be asked to avoid disrupting the lives, traditions, and customs of the local inhabitants.

(3) Facility plan

(i) Individual facilities

Plans will be deployed to provide the facilities needed for exploring nature in subtropical laurel forest and karst topography, viewing of coastal sea-cliffs, and observations of wildlife in the mangrove forests and tidal flats. Facilities already established in the region, including recreation areas, accommodations, and camp sites, will be included in the plans, if they contribute to use of the national park. Plans for the development and maintenance of facilities that can be used within subtropical laurel forests that provide habitats for rare and endemic species will account for potential adverse impacts on the natural environment.

(ii) Roads

The plan will contain provisions for roads allowing vehicle access to allow exploration of the National Park's landscapes, including its subtropical laurel forests, karst topography, and natural coastlines. The plan will also include walkways to allow users to observe flora and fauna and experience the richness of the forest while exploring the scenery associated with the subtropical laurel forests and karst topography. Due to the fragility of the foundation soil, which is prone to outflow and scouring, appropriate walkways will be constructed, based on due consideration of usage patterns and the state of the natural environment. Should deterioration occur, routes may be changed or walkways temporarily closed to facilitate recovery.

In the development and maintenance of roads and walkways within subtropical laurel forests that are home to both rare and endemic species, consideration will be given to measures to prevent adverse impact on the natural environment due to use of the National Park and to prevent capture and the collection of rare species and the loss of rare animals due to roadkill.

2. Regulation Plan

(1) Protective regulations plans and related matters

(i) Special Protection Zone

Among the Special Zones, the following zones are classified as Special Protection Zones:

(Table 3: Details of Special Protection Zones)

Name	Zone overview	Area (ha)
Mt. Hedodake	With a Paleozoic limestone substrate, the karst topography of the zone provides magnificent landscapes. <i>Psychotria manillensis-Diospyros maritima</i> communities, specific to limestone regions, are found in the forests. Plants specific to limestone regions develop in this zone. These elements and the landscapes of the karst topography will be protected by strict conservation measures.	56
Benoki River upper reaches	The zone includes the laurel forests that are at least 75 years old, as well as the mountain stream environment of the Benoki River upper reaches. Providing habitats for rare and endemic species, including the Okinawa woodpecker, Okinawa rail, and Okinawa Ishikawa frog (<i>Odorrana ishikawae</i>), this zone will be protected by strict conservation measures.	192
Mt. Ibudake	The laurel forests that spreads from the northwestern foothills of Mt. Ibudake (elevation 353 m) to the Fungawa River contains laurel forests at least 75 years old. Representing an important habitat for rare and endemic species, including the Okinawa woodpecker and Okinawa rail, this zone will be protected by strict conservation measures. The boundary between the zone and the Class I Special Zone on the hillside of Mt. Ibudake features <i>Quercus miyagii</i> oak trees estimated to be some 300 years old.	220
Yona River upper reaches	Home to the laurel forests at least 75 years old, this zone encompasses the Yona River upper reaches from an altitude of 200 m to 300 m. It provides habitats for rare and endemic species, including the Ryukyu long-haired rat (<i>Diplothrix legata</i>) and Ryukyu black-breasted leaf turtle (<i>Geoemyda japonica</i>). This zone will be protected by strict conservation measures. The zone will allow monitoring and academic research activities.	62
Mt. Yonahadake	With Mt. Yonahadake (elevation 503 m), representing Okinawa Island's highest peak, the laurel forests occur on mountain sides up to altitudes of around 300 m. The zone is important habitat for many rare and endemic species, including the Okinawa woodpecker. Also found here are cloud forests featuring numerous epiphytic ferns and orchidaceous plants. In addition to being a core National Park region, this region is popular with climbers and other visitors. This zone will be protected by strict conservation measures to prevent and minimize friction between public use and to ensure the conservation of rare and endemic species.	256
Taminato-utaki Sacred Site	Featuring a basement rock of Paleozoic limestone, Sacred Site has been protected up to the present day, untouched by human activity. The vegetation in this zone is regarded as typical of a Paleozoic limestone region in Okinawa. This zone will be protected by strict conservation measures.	3
Total		789

(ii) Class I Special Zone

The following zones are classified as Class I Special Zones:

(Table 5: Details of Class I Special Zones)

Name	Zone overview	Area (ha)
Cape Hedo	This sea-cliff terrain is home to windswept vegetation. A limestone substrate featuring karst topography stretches inland from the cliffs, on the flat portions of which an expansive prairie of Korean lawn (<i>Zoysia pacifica</i>) grows. The zone offers various coastal scenic perspectives. Efforts will seek to maintain this scenic beauty while preserving the sea cliff landscapes.	31
Mountainous backbone	A mountainous region located at elevations of 250 m or higher, this zone is covered by the laurel forests. It serves as important habitat for the Okinawa spiny rat, Ryukyu long-haired rat, Okinawa woodpecker, and Okinawa rail. Rheophyte plants flourish in the mountain streams of the valleys. The zone is also home to various rare and endemic species of amphibians and reptiles, including the Okinawa Ishikawa frog, Namiye's frog (<i>Limnonectes namiyei</i>), Holst's frog (<i>Babina holsti</i>), the Ryukyu black-breasted leaf turtle, and the Anderson's crocodile newt (<i>Echinotriton andersoni</i>). With several major forestry roads running through the zone, measures will focus on conservation approaches that maintain the scenic beauty of the zone and allow continuing public use of the National Park, as well as efforts to replant and link younger and artificial forests to the older laurel forests.	3,796
Eastern zone	Lying at elevations between 100 m to 200 m, this hilly zone on the eastern slope of the mountainous backbone is covered by evergreen laurel forests of ranging between 40 and 60 years in age. The zone is home to various rare and endemic species, including the Okinawa woodpecker, Okinawa rail, Ryukyu robin (<i>Luscinia komadori namiyei</i>), and Ryukyu black-breasted leaf turtle. In addition to measures intended to maintain the scenic beauty of this zone and to preserve it as habitat for endemic species, efforts will seek to link young forests to older forests.	441
Mt. Nekumachijidake, Mt. Shioya-fuji	Featuring a karst topography, this mountainous region includes Mt. Nekumachijidake (elevation 361 m) and Mt. Shioya-fuji (elevation 318 m), both Paleozoic limestone mountains. The zone is home to many rare plants adapted to this special environment of mountaintop cloud forest, windswept areas, and special soil characteristics. Mountain trails are already established here. Plans call for maintaining the zone's scenic beauty while considering measures to conserve its valuable plant species.	149
Gesashi	Located at the mouth of the Gesashi River, this unique landscape features mangrove forests comprised of oriental mangrove (<i>Bruguiera gymnorrhiza</i>), Asiatic mangrove (<i>Rhizophora mucronata</i>), and <i>Kandelia obovata</i> . Various aquatic species including fiddler crabs and barred mudskippers (<i>Periophthalmus argentilineatus</i>) can be observed here at low tide. The zone is a base from which visitors can walk along a boardwalk or venture out in kayaks to observe the flora and fauna.	11
Total		4,428

(iii) Class II Special Zone

The following zones are classified as Class II Special Zones:

(Table 6: Summary of Class II Special Zones)

Prefecture	Zone	Area (ha)
Okinawa	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Oku, Aza Ginama, and Aza Hedo	241
	Within Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: National Forest Okinawa District Forest Office Parts of Compartment 55 – 57	2,318
	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Iji, Aza Uka, Aza Ura, Aza Oku, Aza Okuma, Aza Ginama, Aza Sate, Aza Jashiki, Aza Hama, Aza Hiji, Aza Benoki, Aza Hentona and Aza Yona	
	Ogimi Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Kijoka, Aza Janagusuku and Aza Takazato	
	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Ada	131
	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Ada	23
	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Aha	184
	Higashi Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Takae	127
	Ogimi Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Uehara, Aza Ogimi, Aza Oganeku, Aza Oshikawa, Aza Shioya, Aza Taminato, Aza Nuhha, Aza Nerome and Aza Yako	324
	Ogimi Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Shirahama and Aza Miyagi	68
	Ogimi Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Ogimi, Aza Oshikawa, Aza Taminato and Aza Nerome	80
	Higashi Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Kawata and Aza Miyagi	
	Ogimi Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Tsuha	558
Ogimi Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Arume, Aza Gesashi and Aza Taira		
Total		4,054

(iv) Class III Special Zone

The following zones are classified as Class III Special Zones:

(Table 8: Summary of Class III Special Zones)

Prefecture	Zone	Area (ha)
Okinawa	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Ginama and Aza Hedo	162
	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Oku, Aza Ginama, and Aza Hedo	496
	Within Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: National Forest Okinawa District Forest Office All of Compartment 53, and parts of Compartment 54 and 56 Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Oku and Aza Ginama	397
	Within Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: National Forest Okinawa District Forest Office All of Compartment 48 – 52 and parts of Compartment 57 Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Oku and Aza Sosu	1,000
	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Ada and Aza Sosu	136
	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Ada	8
	Within Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: National Forest Okinawa District Forest Office Parts of Compartment 59 – 62 Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Iji, Aza Uka, Aza Ura, Aza Oku, Aza Okuma, Aza Sate, Aza Jashiki, Aza Hama, Aza Hiji, Aza Benoki, Aza Hentona and Aza Yona Ogimi Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Ogimi, Aza Kijoka, Aza Takazato and Aza Nuhha	1,114
	Ogimi Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Shirahama	8
	Ogimi Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Tsuha Higashi Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Gesashi	24
	Total	3,345

ii. Related matters

(i) Ordinary Zone

The following zones are classified as Ordinary Zones:

(Table 10: List of Ordinary Zones)

Prefecture	Zone	Area (ha)
Okinawa	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Ada, Aza Aha, Aza Ginama, Aza Sosu, Aza Hama, Aza Hiji and Aza Hedo	887
	Ogimi Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Taiho, Aza Shioya, Aza Shirahama, Aza Taminato, Aza Tsuha, Aza Miygagi and Aza Yako	85
	Higashi Village, Kunigami County: Parts of Aza Kawata, Aza Gesashi and Aza Takae	34
Total for land areas		1,006
Parts of sea water surface adjacent to land areas of the park		3,670
Total		4,676

iii. Breakdown of area

(i) Area by zone category and by ownership status

(Table 12: Summary of area by zone category and by ownership status)

Zone category		Special Zone							
Zone class		Special Protection Zones				Class I			
Ownership status		National	Public	Private	Other	National	Public	Private	Other
Okinawa Prefecture	Area by ownership status	236	482	71	0	822	3,271	280	55
	Area by class (rate)					4,428 (32)			
						789 (6)			
	Area by category (rate)								

Special Zone							
Class II				Class III			
National	Public	Private	Other	National	Public	Private	Other
425	2,271	1,258	100	1,403	1,221	660	61
				4,054 (30)			
				3,345 (25)			
				11,827 (87)			
				12,616 (93)			

Ordinary Zone (On land)				Total (On land)			
National	Public	Private	Other	National	Public	Private	Other
51	427	460	68	2,937	7,672	2,729	284
				1,006 (7)			
				13,622 (100)			

Marine Special Zone	Ordinary Zone (Marine area)	Total (Marine area)
0	3,670	3,670

3. Facility Plan

(1) Protective facilities plan

The protective facilities plans are given below.

(Table 13: List of protective facilities)

No.	Type	Location	Development policy
1	Nature restoration facility	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture	For young laurel forests and other forests, measures will target the restoration of and linkage to old-growth forests, as well as the revitalization of the river basin.
2	Nature restoration facility	Ogimi Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture	For young laurel forests and other forests, measures will target the restoration of and linkage to old-growth forests, as well as the revitalization of the river basin.
3	Nature restoration facility	Higashi Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture	For young laurel forests and other forests, measures will target the restoration of and linkage to old-growth forests, as well as the revitalization of the river basin.

(2) Facility plan for use

a. Individual facility

The individual facilities are described as follows:

(Table 14: List of individual facilities)

No.	Type	Location	Development policy
1	Recreation site	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Hedo)	Located at Okinawa Island's northernmost tip, this cape provides visitors with views of both the East China Sea and the Pacific Ocean as well as opportunities to see humpback whales (<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>). Improvements will include parking spaces, toilets, and paths to make it more suitable for viewing the scenery and exploration of wildlife. Measures will target the conservation of the landscape and vegetation in the surrounding areas.
2	Recreation site	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Uzabama)	The site will offer views of Cape Hedo and Mt. Hedodake. Improvements will include an observation platform, paths, and parking spaces.
3	Recreation site	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Ginama)	Improvements will include parking spaces, toilets, and paths to make it more suitable for viewing the karst topography and its Paleozoic limestone substrate.
4	Exhibition facility	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Ginama)	The facility will be developed to allow visitors to learn on the importance of the region's nature. Improvements will include exhibitions on tropical karst topography,
5	Recreation site	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Kayauchi-banta Cliff)	Improvements will include parking spaces, toilets, and paths to make it more suitable for viewing the scenery of cliffs and reef slopes.
6	Recreation site	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture	The site will be developed to allow visitors to explore remnants of older modes of life in the village landscapes of the Yambaru region, as well as

No.	Type	Location	Development policy
		(Oku)	traditional stonewalls around settlements to keep out boars.
7	Accommodation	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Benoki)	Accommodations will be developed here for those visiting the park areas in the Yambaru region. Plans will account for the need to protect wild local flora and fauna.
8	Recreation site	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Ada)	The site will be developed to allow nature exploration in and around the Mt. Ibudake and the environs of Ada. The site will give visitors the opportunity to observe the Okinawa rail.
9	Recreation site	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Kochibaru)	The site will be developed to allow exploration of laurel forests and seashore. Visitors will also have the opportunity to experience charcoal making and other local cultural activities.
10	Recreation site	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Hentona)	The site will be developed to allow visitors to observe wildlife in the midst of laurel forests and experience the richness of the Yambaru forest.
11	Recreation site	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Aha)	The site will be developed to allow visitors to observe wild local flora and fauna and the scenery of laurel forests and experience the richness of the Yambaru forest.
12	Accommodation	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Aha)	Accommodations will be developed here for those visiting the park areas in the Yambaru region. The surroundings will give visitors opportunities to encounter wildlife in the midst of laurel forests and experience the richness of the Yambaru forest.
13	Campsite	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Aha)	The site will be developed here for those visiting the park areas in the Yambaru region. The surroundings will give visitors opportunities to encounter wildlife in the midst of laurel forests and experience the richness of the Yambaru forest.
14	Recreation site	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Hiji)	The site will be developed to allow nature exploration and observations of wild birds and other species along the Hiji River and in the surrounding areas.
15	Campsite	Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Hiji)	The site will be developed to allow visitors to experience the natural riches of Yambaru in the midst of the laurel forests of the Hiji River and the surrounding areas.
16	Recreation site	Ogimi Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Takazato)	The site will be developed to allow nature exploration and observations of wild birds and other species along the Takazato River and in the surrounding areas.
17	Campsite	Ogimi Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Takazato)	The site will be developed to allow visitors to experience the natural riches of Yambaru in the midst of the laurel forests of the Takazato river and the surrounding areas.
18	Recreation site	Ogimi Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Mutabaru)	The site will offer views of Shioya Bay. Improvements will include an observation platform and parking spaces.
19	Recreation site	Ogimi Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Shioya Bay)	The site will be developed to allow nature exploration in the areas surrounding Shioya Bay

No.	Type	Location	Development policy
20	Recreation site	Ogimi Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Tsuha)	The site will be developed to allow nature exploration in the areas surrounding Ta-taki Falls.
21	Recreation site	Higashi Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Arakawa)	The site will be developed to allow visitors to take in views from the eastern coast and explore nature along Arakawa and in the surrounding areas.
22	Recreation site	Higashi Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Fukuji)	The site will be developed to allow nature exploration and observations of laurel forests and local flora and fauna, whether on foot or by boat.
23	Recreation site	Higashi Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Gesashi)	Improvements will include paths, toilets, parking spaces, and information offices. The site will give visitors opportunities to observe wildlife in the Gesashi mangrove forests and tidal flats, whether by canoe or from the boardwalks.

ii. Roads

(i) Roads allowing vehicle access

The roads allowing vehicle access are described as follows:

(Table 15: List of roads (vehicle access))

No.	Name	Section	Major site on the course	Development policy
1	Oku - Ginama route	From: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Boundary between Oku and National Park) To: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Boundary between Ginama and National Park)	Cape Hedo	The road will be developed and maintained as a route leading to the eastern coastline and passing through Cape Hedo, Okinawa's northernmost point, and the area surrounding Mt. Hedodake. Measures will account for the need to maintain the scenery along the route and conserve habitat for rare and endemic species.
2	Mt. Hedodake route	From: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Ginama recreation site entrance) To: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Ginama recreation site)	Mt. Hedodake	The road will be developed and maintained as a route leading to Ginama recreation site. Measures will account for the need to maintain the forest landscape and conserve habitat for rare species.
3	Eastern coast route	From: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Boundary between Oku and National Park) To: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture	Akasaki	The road will be developed and maintained as a route passing along the eastern coast of the Pacific side and its many natural coastlines. Measures will account for the need to maintain the coastal landscape and conserve habitat for rare

No.	Name	Section	Major site on the course	Development policy
		(Boundary between Sosu and National Park) From: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Boundary between Ada and National Park) To: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Boundary between Ada and National Park)		species.
4	Yambaru East-West route From: (Boundary between Yona and National Park)	From: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Boundary between Yona and National Park) To: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Oku Yona forest road converging point)	Mountainous backbone	The road will be developed and maintained as a route linking the east and west slopes and passing through the mountainous backbone. Measures will account for the need to maintain the forest landscape and conserve habitat for rare species.

(ii) Walkways

The walkways are described as follows:

(Table 17: List of roads (walkways))

No.	Name	Section	Major site on the course	Development policy
1	Mt. Ibudake route	From: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Converging point for Mt. Ibudake trailhead and trail) To: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Mt. Ibudake)	Mt. Ibudake	The route will be developed and maintained as a trail that allows visitors to explore the natural beauty and the remnants of older modes of life in the subtropical laurel forests. Measures will account for the need to maintain the forest landscape and conserve habitat for rare species. [Mountain trail]
2	Ada route	From: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Ada-Kochibaru) To: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Converging point for Mt. Ibudake trailhead and trail)	Ada Village	The route will be developed and maintained as a trail that allows visitors to walk along and view the beaches where sea turtles lay their eggs and the natural beauty of the subtropical laurel forests. The route will also give visitors opportunities to observe the Okinawa rail. Measures will account for the need to maintain the forest landscape and conserve habitat for rare and endemic species. [Nature trail]

No.	Name	Section	Major site on the course	Development policy
3	Mt. Yonahadake route	From: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Mt. Yonahadake trailhead) To: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Mt. Yonahadake)	Mt. Yonahadake	The route will be developed and maintained as an ascending trail through Mt. Yonahadake in the heart of the Yambaru region. Measures will account for the need to maintain the forest landscape, conserve habitat for rare and endemic species, and protect vegetation. [Mountain trail]
4	Aha route	From: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Yambaru Discovery Forest) To: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Aha village)	Yambaru Discovery Forest	The route will be developed and maintained as a trail that allows visitors to observe the subtropical laurel forests and the flora and fauna of the mountain streams. Measures will account for the need to maintain the forest landscape and conserve habitat for rare and endemic species. [Nature trail]
5	Hiji-otaki Falls route	From: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Hiji-otaki Falls access point) To: Kunigami Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Hiji-otaki Falls)	Hiji-otaki Falls	The route will be developed and maintained as a nature exploration trail leading up to Hiji-otaki Falls, allowing visitors to observe wild birds and plants of the Hiji River and the surrounding areas. Measures will account for the need to maintain the forest landscape. [Nature trail]
6	Mt. Nekumachijidake and Mt. Shioya-fuji route	From: Ogimi Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Mt. Nekumachijidake trailhead) To: Ogimi Village, Kunigami County, Okinawa Prefecture (Mutabaru)	Mt. Nekumachijidake, Mt. Shioya-fuji	The route will be developed and maintained as an ascending trail through the limestone mountains of Mt. Nekumachijidake and Mt. Shioya-fuji. Measures will account for the need to conserve habitat for rare and endemic species and protect vegetation. [Mountain trail]
7	Mt. Tamatsuji route	From: Higashi Village, Kunigama County, Okinawa Prefecture (Fukuji Dam) To: Ogimi Village, Kunigama County, Okinawa Prefecture (Okuni Forest Road)	Mt. Tamachiji	The route will be developed and maintained as an ascending trail through Mt. Tamachiji. Measures will account for the need to conserve habitat for rare and endemic species and protect vegetation. [Mountain trail]